
Date: July 11, 2012 **MEPD Policy Bulletin Number: 12-08**

To: Eligibility Services – Regional Directors for MEPD
Regional Attorneys
Hearings Officers

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Subject: Spousal Dependent Allowance

The information in this bulletin is for **MEPD**. If you have any questions regarding the policy, follow regional procedures. The information in this bulletin is available at the following websites:

- Family Services - <http://ofs.hhsc.state.tx.us/mepd/mepd-bulletins.aspx>, and
- MEPD Handbook - http://www.dads.state.tx.us/handbooks/mepd_policy/index.htm.

Background

Sections H-1600 and J-7400 of the Medicaid for the Elderly and People with Disabilities (MEPD) handbook contains policy for spousal dependent allowance and the amount for the allowance. The current amount of the spousal dependent allowance is \$1839.

Policy/Procedure Update

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently informed HHSC of the new spousal amounts. The new spousal dependent allowance amount is \$1892.

Automation

Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS) is currently updated with this new amount.

Handbook

This policy update will be added to the MEPD Handbook effective September 2012.

Training

Basic Skills Training will be updated to reflect this change. TIERS training will also be updated to reflect this change.

Effective Date

The effective date of the change is July 1, 2012. Use the new amount in eligibility determination months (co-pay budgets) for July 1, 2012 and ongoing.